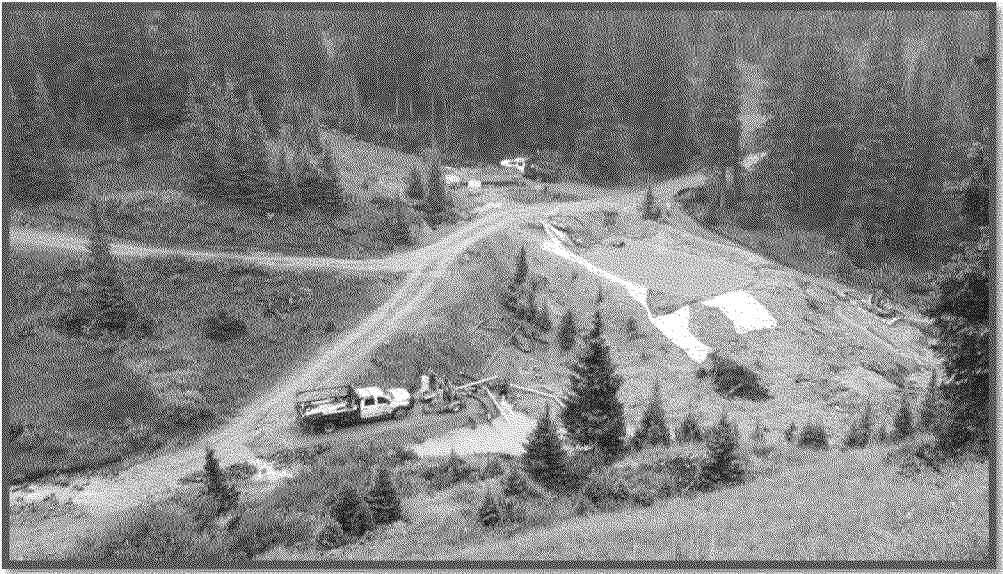


SITUATION REPORT
INCIDENT COMMAND POST GOLD KING
GOLD KING MINE INCIDENT RELEASE
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



Gold King Pond 1 and September for 2015 Diversion Operation

Subject: EXECSUM / SITREP #26
Gold King Mine Incident Release
San Juan County, Colorado
Latitude: 37.8945 107.6384

From: Situation Unit, Incident Command Post Gold King
Date: 6 September 2015
Reporting Period: 0700 5 September 2015 through 0900 September 2015 6
Website: www.epa.gov/goldkingmine



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
For Internal Use Only

Situation **Summary**
United States Environmental Protection Agency Command (US EPA) is Gold King comprised U.S. EPA Region 9.

Highlights, Key Updates/Changes

- ICPGK drafted the draft Gold King Mine Stakeholder Notification Plan. This plan will notify stakeholders throughout the entire watershed in Regions 8, 6, and 9 of any mine activities which could impact potentially watershed. The final plan is to be posted to the EPA GKM website.

- ICPGK continues to monitor relations with the Navajo Nation.

Objectives

- Ensure health and safety of the public and responders.
- Continue implementation of mpling private and well water sa deliveries.
- Establish strategy ed for private wells.
- Continue coordination with Federal, State, Tribal and local
- Continue management of mine water discharge.
- Continue mine dump and portal stabilization.
- Assess sediment impacts.
- Identify incident end points.
- Implement river alert and notification plan during mine site operat
- Explore real time monitoring options.
- Continue water and sediment sampling along the Animas a
- Evaluate need for delivery on lives of Navajo Nation.

Command Emphasis

For the next operation command period, emphasis will be:

- Safety of responders and the public
- Visitors to the mine site are fing required to go through
- Incident personneling Southern Ute(SUT) Tribal must be UT mesabered by
- All sampling operations in Navajo Nation must be conducted
- Ensure information flow between ICP and Stakeholders is t

The metrics provided in Repothis represent quantities reported for September 2015. Press releases are presented in AttachMetrics 1. table cells report text highlighted in yellow represent a change/addition rt.from the previo



1.0 BACKGROUND

The Gold King Mine (GKM) near Silverton, Colorado is a historic gold mine at an elevation of approximately 11,300 feet above mean sea level. The mine is a contributor of Cement Creek metals drainage to the Animas River. GKM workings have been inaccessible since 1995 when the mine was closed. On 5 August 2015, an estimated volume of up to three million gallons of dissolved metals was suddenly released from the Gold King Mine adit. This water discharged into Cement Creek which feeds into the Animas River, and subsequent events have continued to impact the river. The U.S. EPA continues to assess and mitigate releases from the Gold King Mine and Cement Creek. Additionally, EPA continues to schedule sampling of private wells within the alluvial area surrounding the river.

2.0 OPERATIONS

2.1 Mine Operations

A summary of mine operations is presented below.

- Lime addition (8 lbs overnight) if needed.
- Automated lime hopper is being used to dispense lime.
- Diverting Gold King water to the R&B settling ponds.
- Installed oil boom modified with felt liner to act as a barrier to prevent oil from entering the R&B ponds.
- Monitoring of treatment at process locations twice daily. Average flow is approximately 550 gallons per minute treating to pH 10.5 and U. 3.37.
- Finish construction of the pondstone 1 settling pond.
- Bolts and wire mesh are being installed in and around the pondstone 1 settling pond in an effort to stabilize the area.

ICPGK drafted the Gold King Mine Stakeholders Alert Plan and notification to the EPA GKM website. The plan will notify the Regions 8, 6 and 9 of which any could mine potentially impact the plan. The plan also includes a "notification mine only" related alert activities such as a notification in its current form will remain in effect. The plan also includes a notification to address the first level of notification and information. Beyond that, initial notification, all parties are responsible for assessing the incident and determining notification.

2.2 River Sampling

Operational activities for surface water and sediment sampling summarized below. Sample quantities are based on the SCRIBE database, assurance/quality control QA/QC samples.



Table 1 - Operations			Sampling		Summary	
Matrix			U.S. Region	Qty. (5 Sep 2015)	Qty. (Cumulative)	
Surface Water Samples			8	8	384	
			6	9	319	
			9	0	239	
			Total	17	942	
Sediment Samples			8	0	148	
			6	9	333	
			9	0	192	
			Total	9	673	

2.3 Private Wells / Fish Ponds / Sediment

2.3.1 Private Wells

Operational activities for drinking water well sampling are summarized in Table 1. The assessment focus area for private drinking water wells includes those private drinking water wells located within 300 feet of the Animas River (including connected canals), between Baker's Bridge and the Colorado River. The assessment focus area for private drinking water wells includes those private drinking water wells located within 500 feet of the banks of the affected waterways (Animas River, within the Juarez Animas River watershed). In the New Mexico, there has been no sampling of private wells in U.S. EPA Region 9.

Private wells that have concentrations greater than the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) and were collected from private drinking water wells during the first sampling event were sampled a second time to confirm the results. In Region 8, analytical results from private wells given proper were collected from the have MCL exceedances have been determined.

For Region 6 there was a private drinking water well that exceeded the MCL for lead. The well was located in the State of New Mexico. It was determined that the exceedance was unrelated to the GKM.

A summary of private drinking water well sampling is provided below.

Table - Private Drinking Water Sampling Summary				Sampling		Summary	
Matrix				U.S. EPA Region	Qty. (5 Sep 2015)	Qty. (Cumulative)	
Private Drinking Water Samples Collected (from SCRIBE, includes QA/QC)				8	4	364	
				6	0	285	
Private Drinking Water Locations Wells				8	0	45	
				6	0	120	
Private Drinking Water Locations Wells				8	4	257	
				6	0	0	



Table – Private Drinking Water MCL Exceedances				Private MCL Exceedances		
Matrix				U.S. Region	Qty. (5 Sep)	Qty. (Cumulative)
Within Focus Private Area	Water Wells Containing Concentrations Above MCLs	Second Sampling Event	D	8	0	1
				Contaminant 6 during		1*
				0		
Outside of : Focus Private Area	Water Wells Containing Concentrations Above MCLs	Second Sampling Event	D	8	0	9
				Contaminant 6 during		0
				0		

*Note: One well in Region 6 d exceeded further MCL assessment lead to Mexico and EPA, it was determined that the exceedance was

Private water well sampling was completed 6 on 27 August 2015 ongoing in U.S. Region EPA 6.

2.3.2 Water Mitigation

No public water systems are currently affected by the release. U.S. EPA purchased 232 cases of bottled water supply the community. Public support activities completed are summarized below.

Table 4 -Public Support Summary							
Activity	Entity	5 Sep 2015			Cumulative		
		Deliveries (each)	Qty. (gal)	Qty. (hay)	Deliveries (each)	Qty. (gal)	Qty. (hay)
Potable Deliveries	US EPA	0	0			62,000	
	US EPA	0	0		47	141,980	
Livestock / Agricultural Water Deliveries	US EPA				59	1,104,990	
	US EPA	0	0		13	218,400	
	BIA*	0	0		7	975,888	
Agricultural Food Deliveries	US EPA				1		244
	US EPA	0		0	14		5,376

*Note: BIA of Indian Affairs delivered nonlocations in the Navajo approximately 12 August 2015 to 31 August 2015.

Bulk water delivery in Region 8 bottled water was 3 released provided in Region 8 agriculture and livestock ized tea 20 August 2015 have been no potable water deliveries by the nor agricultural EPA foodn by Regions U.S. in EPA Region 8.

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe water (SUI) shak delivered to drinking



within the Reservation boundary. Approximately include: volumes to

- 100 cases of bottled water
- 18 water dispensers— five gallons water 42 containers (210 gallons total)
- 8,000 gallons of bulk water deliveries (there have past been two

SUIT Tribal Housing Services completed the installation of 14 impacted tribal residences.

On 4 September 2015, ICPGK received a summary of water Bureau of Indian Affairs the (Navajo provided to the Navajo water Nation for livestock and agricultural summary. of the metrics is provided below

- From 12 August to 31 August 2015, 88 BIA gallons delivered of a
- The seven stations that located throughout Navajo Nation. as
- Gadii Ahi, Teec, Aneth, Pt/Mexican Water and Monument V
- For the seven A serviced locations an Blaverage of 28 clients per d

2.3.3 Other Mitigation Activities

U.S. EPA continues to water conductivity twice parameters daily measurements Fishes, LLC and forwarding results. U.S. to EPA the continue remove route sediment ponds in for the resident along the Animas River.

Due to adverse weather conditions and the availability of staff during this reporting period. Staff concentration efforts action development the upcoming week.

2.3.4 Water Tank & Assessment Demobilization

On or about 15 August 2015, 15 black steel tanks were delivered by the ERRS contractor locations on the Navajo Reservation to as the part Goldf King Mine these tanks is reported to have a capacity of 16,500 g tanks delivered had been reported as 13, but it was r there were two additional tanks that had not previously been reported. These two tanks ordered by R6 personnel and were not being tracked by OSC confirmed the presence of these two additional tanks.

On 1st August 2015, two tanks at the Upper Fruitland location On 3 September 2015, the OSC and START conducted an include the two tanks that had not been reported until

On 4 September 2015, ilized by tanks the were ERRS demobntractor. This tanks:



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- Tank 31L Meadow Farms location (This tank had 6,000
- the Navajo Nation initially believed was contaminate
- Tanks 913 and 907 Area 3 West location (these tank
- Tanks 914 and 906 New Meadows Location (these tanks

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) delivered water to these tankwater volumes provided in Table 4 above.

3.0 PLANNING

3.1 Environmental Unit

The following sampling documents have been issued.

Activity	U.S. Region	Qty. (5 Sep 2015)	Cumulative
Validated Analytical Results Letter	8	0	17
Drinking water Well Owners (no6 MCL exceedance) data validation or before 15 August 2015)	9	N/A	N/A

The following data was sent September 3, 2015 to EPA.gov:

- Region 8 sediment data (8 samples), potable surface water data
- Region 8 sediment data (11 samples) and surface water data
- Region 8 sediment sample data (5 samples) and surface water

The Environmental Unit (EU) a division of LSI Private - well owners have not yet been contacted and forwarded to U.S. EPA Region 8 Drinking Water Senior Environmental Employees for direct contact. The phone has contacted target. EPA 319 started making these September, on 2015.

3.2 Resources

The table below summarizes staffing numbers for the federal response.



Table 5 - Personnel Site - - -		
Region	Agency / Entity	Number Personnel (5 Sep 2015)
Mine	U.S. EPA	3
	U.S. Coast Guard	3
	U.S. EPA Contractors	13
	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	0
	U.S. Geological Survey	0
	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	0
ICPGK	U.S. EPA	24
	U.S. EPA Contractors	19
	USCG	3
	Other Federal, State, Local	2
6	U.S. EPA	11
	U.S. EPA Contractors	2
	USCG	0
	Other Federal, State, Local	0
9	U.S. EPA	0
	U.S. EPA Contractors	8
	USCG	0
	Other Federal, State, Local	0
Total		88

No unmet critical resource needs reported.

4.0 FINANCE

4.1 Estimated Response Costs to Date

The table below summarizes estimated costs for the response.

Table 6 - Estimated Response Costs Response as of September 2015					
Region	U.S. EPA Cumulative Expended	U.S. EPA Cumulative Expended	U.S. EPA Cumulative Expended	U.S. EPA Cumulative Expended	Total Cumulative Costs
8	\$782,127	\$160,033	\$18,886	\$2,633,748	\$3,594,794
6	\$486,622	\$122,950	\$12,989	\$2,374,113	\$2,996,674
9	\$532,080	\$79,500	\$0	\$865,510	\$1,477,090
TOTAL	\$1,800,829	\$362,483	\$31,875	\$5,873,371	\$8,068,558



4.2 Estimated Burn Rates
The table below summarizes current estimated burn rates for

Table 7 -Estimated Daily	
U.S. EPA	Estimated Daily (as Sep 2015)
8	\$131,920
6	\$41,990
9	\$60,816
Total	\$234,726

5.0 LOGISTICS

As of 5 September 2015, Logistics has received 19 overhead personnel requests which have been submitted to the Regions to fill. As of September 2016, of those 19 requests have been filled. There are nine overhead personnel requests that remain unfilled.

6.0 SAFETY

Driving continues to be the number one hazard encouraged to personnel when conducting field activities and driving around town. The factor in field driving time needed and distance to the mine and field

Work/Rest regimens need to be followed to reduce heat stress. Take breaks with you when on field activities. ICP f

ICPKG has a Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) program for personnel involved with the response. 5 September 2015, the CISM center received 200 visits from response personnel.

No recordable accidents were reported September 2015

7.0 PUBLIC INFORMATION

7.1 Community Engagements

No community engagements occurred September 2015.

Table 8 -Community Engagement		Sur
Description	U.S. EPA	Qty. (5 Sep 2015)
Community Engagements	8	0
	6	0
	9	0



7.2 Anticipated Events: VIPs/Congressional Visits and Public Events

Known site visits and for public events summarized below

Table 9 - Anticipated Site Visits and Public				Planned Event		Anticipated Date	
Update	meeting	with	La	Plata	County	September	2015
Meeting	with	La	Plata	County	Technical September	Subcommittee	2015

7.3 Community Relationship

Effective August 27, 2015, the calls Regional (970) 385 8700 regarding the Gold King Release Incident are being handled by the National Call Center (844 607 9700). The National Call Center is now being operated by U.S.A. EPA's all-hazards response at the Regional Center during its operation. AC this includes 20 calls related to Region 6 and 38 calls related to Region 9.

8.0 LIAISON

Federal, regional local entities participating in the response are summarized below

U.S. EPA
U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS)

Colorado Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
Colorado Department of Natural Resources (CDNR)
New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)
New Mexico (NM) Department of Health
NM Office of the State Engineer
NM Department of Game and Fish
State of Utah
State of Arizona

City of Durango
La Plata County
San Juan County
San Basilio Health Department
County of - New Mexico

Southern Ute Indian Tribe (SUIT)
Navajo Nation



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9.0 SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, refer to www.epa.gov/epd/kingmine.



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ATTACHMENT 1
PRESS RELEASE



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SEPTEMBER

2015